

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, In 1881, Frank and Justin Pettigrew began construction of the power dam and St. Olaf Roller Mill on the Big Sioux River, and the Mill, along with the railroad, became the nucleus of the town that would first be called St. Olaf, then Keyes and finally settled on Baltic as its name; and,

Whereas, The St. Olaf Roller Mill began operation in 1883, producing 120 barrels of flour a day, which was shipped to Minnesota by railroad carrying the Gold Medal and Gold Foil labels until its closure in 1916; and,

Whereas, Baltic is a community located in southeastern South Dakota, with Norwegian ancestry and largely agricultural-based through the 1980s when its population was 688, and with the decline of the family farm, Baltic has become a bedroom community of Sioux Falls with a current population of 950; and,

Whereas, In 1957, a need was recognized for a new auditorium-gymnasium and the community, as well as many area farmers, contributed generously of their time, equipment and financial support to construct a facility that cost \$26,000 and continues to be used today; and,

Whereas, The Baltic School District is the largest employer in the community with a high school that accommodates grades 6-12 and a K-8 school addition currently under construction and scheduled for completion during the fall of 2006; and,

Whereas, Art Moe, life-long resident of Baltic, will lead its Quasquicentennial Parade on Saturday, July 1, 2006, and Art will be honored for his many contributions to the community; and,

Whereas, Baltic, South Dakota, will celebrate its 125th Anniversary on July 1-4, 2006, with a parade, car show, quilt show, basketball shoot-out, kids pedal tractor pull, outdoor community church service, Su Fu Du Drum Line, talent show, kids fishing contest, ball games, fireworks and more:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim July 1-4, 2006, as

BALTIC QUASQUICENTENNIAL DAYS

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fifteenth Day of June in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Six.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State